Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 025364

71
ORIGIN NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 IO-14 COME-00 EB-11 TRSE-00

CG-00 /172 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:MSTERNER/DOD/ISA:COL PIANKA
APPROVED BY S - THE SECRETARY
PM:HGHAGERTY
EUR/SOV:SROY
NEA - MR. ATHERTON
NEA - J. J. SISCO
S/S - MR. LUERS
---------- 085851
P R 070037Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT CAIRO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DA WASHDC
CNO
SECDEF/JCS
CINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 025364

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: BEXP EG
SUBJECT: MINE CLEARANCE IN SUEZ CANAL
REF: CAIRO 443, 449, 451

1. YOU MAY INFORM THE GOE THAT THE USG IS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO RENDER ASSISTANCE ON THIS PROJECT. AS FIRST STEP, HOWEVER, IT NEEDS TO HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION AS TO NATURE AND DIMENSIONS OF JOB AND OF PERSONNEL
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 025364

AND MATERIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO CARRY IT OUT. USG IS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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THEREFORE PREPARED TO SEND SMALL TEAM COMPOSED OF US NAVY AND US ARMY PERSONNEL TO CONSULT WITH GOE AND SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY ON THIS PROJECT.

2. IT IS TO BE UNDERSTOOD THAT PERSONNEL OF THIS US TEAM WILL NOT BE EXPOSED TO THE HAZARDS OF EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE IN THE CONDUCT OF THIS CONSULTATION.

3. DOD IS PREPARED TO DISPATCH SUCH A TEAM UPON RECEIPT OF GOE CONCURRENCE.

4. FYI. RE PARA 1 CAIRO 449, BRITISH EMBASSY TELLS US IT HAS THUS FAR RECEIVED NO RPT NO INSTRUCTIONS TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH DEPT.

5. RE CONSIDERATIONS PARA 4 CAIRO 449, WHILE WE WOULD BE QUITE CONTENT SEE BRITISH HANDLE THIS JOB, BELIEVE US

RESPONSIVENESS TO EGYPTIAN APPEAL WOULD BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY GOE. ON SOVIET ANGLE, SOVIETS ALREADY DEEPLY INVOLVED IN EGYPTIAN NAVY IN TERMS OF SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT AND ADVISORS, AND SOVIET NAVAL VESSELS REGULARLY CALL AT EGYPTIAN PORTS. EVEN IF EGYPTIANS DECIDE TO LET SOVIETS CARRY OUT THIS PROJECT, OR PART OF IT, WE DO NOT SEE THAT IT WOULD DO MUCH TO IMPROVE SOVIET POSITION IN AREA. FOR USG, HOWEVER, PROJECT OF THIS TYPE OFFERS OPPORTUNITY FOR ESTABLISHING CONTACTS BETWEEN US AND EGYPTIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL WHICH HAVE BEEN NONEXISTENT FOR MORE THAN DECADE. END FYI

KISSINGER

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: BEXP, EG
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
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